

Superintendent Conversation Summary themes

March 11, 2009

Thanks to Dr. Kimball for spending the better part of an hour taking questions and comments from the assembled Kamiakin staff. He preceeded the questions by breaking the “work” into 3 main areas of focus.

Notes are related to the 3 main items and then additional thoughts, and subject to the abilities and accuracy of the note taker, Joe Joss.

- **Legislation**

- Basic Ed Task Force introduced bills (5444 & 1410)
 - “Reinvent education” (SpEd, Gifted, NERCS, Comp., eval., etc.)
 - Chip & other Supts. supported bill in hopes it would open the conversation about education and provide an avenue for change
 - “Inspire our communities to invest in education”
 - Both bills were killed.
- Current bill is an “Architecture” bill, basic structure with items being added
 - Believed bill to have passed Senate
 - Legislators aware that WEA must agree
- Examples of I-728 & I-732 as additional monies our voters wanted and supported
 - Additional to basic education, first to be cut in hard budget times

- **Reconfiguration**

- Decision about whether to move ahead (with input provided) to board, June 2009
 - Board says “yes”, Bond placed on ballot for February 2010
 - Bond passes (60%), M&O + Capitol (50%) plans laid out
 - Timeline between 2010 and 2014 to put in place
 - Talk of Juanita Learning Community first to go as we have existing room
- Leadership looking at 4 large high schools or a moderate population within 5 high schools
 - Built east w/ boundary changes

- **Budget**

- Washington State issues
 - Gov’s office was looking at \$5 bill. deficit in December
 - Original budget cut \$3 bill (hope for \$1 bill. stimulus + \$1 bill. revenue)
 - Current = \$8 bill. deficit, forecast from state due out March 19th.
- LWSD is looking at about \$10 million dollar cut
 - Process
 - Survey closes Friday, March 13th
 - Supt. + D.A.R.T. (Central office + Principal reps.) review data
 - Preliminary information to Supt.
 - “Scale” means everything as Chip talked about potential cuts
 - Cut \$1 million already
 - Central office admin., Teacher leaders, TOSA’s,
 - Raising fees
 - All day kindergarten to cost
 - Pay for play as possibility, opened talk of JH sports

- Costs of coaches, football, intramural programs
 - RIF system was discussed. LWSD based on seniority
 - “Golden Handshake” or other retirement options discussed
 - Juanita pool was discussed
 - Talked about other entities running property
 - Given budget crises and choices, Chip expressed support for \$ toward staffing
 - I-728 monies discussed
 - 4 main items funded
 - Class size in elementary, Prof. Dev., Pre-school development, safety net
 - Quest programs
 - Cost to district is secretarial time and “pull out” elementary
- **Choice Programs**
 - Insight that calling “Choice” programs such, leaves “The Rest” of us
 - Noted efforts to stop confusion and labeling